

"methods of barbarism" by which the war was being conducted, and roundly declared that "self government was better than good government/" and, despite the bitter attacks upon him from within the ranks of his own nominal adherents, his steadiness prevailed, his courage shamed his critics, and his point of view, in the end, became that of the Liberal Party as a whole. There was a longish period during which meetings sought to be addressed by Mr Lloyd George, who was much more definitely a pro-Boer than Campbell-Bannerman, were regularly broken up, while Campbell-Bannerman himself was denounced in unmeasured terms, in the Press and on the platform. Yet, there they were, throughout. There was throughout a solid opposition—a fact that made the simpler sort of patriot uneasy the more uneasy that the Boers were proving very hard to beat.

In the reaction of the Webbs, many elements combined to set them on the side of the majority. They were just back from a visit to the Empire. Imperial efficiency was a creed that appealed to them, potently. Although, in many respects, far from being "typical Britons," they are, at bottom, very English, and in nothing more so than in a certain naive, direct, and simple patriotic feeling. What he felt about London, they both felt about their country as a whole, and that in a perfectly normal form. To neither had the idealism or the knight errantry of Gladstone ever appealed. His Radicalism, like hers, was of the domestic Chamberlain brand, and there was much in

Chamberlain's
outlook, besides his collectivist leanings, that
attracted
them Their closest Conservative friend was
Arthur Balfour,
their closest Liberal friend R B Haldane
Efficiency at
home and abroad efficiency as expressed,
domestically
and imperially, in a high standard of
education, public
health, and public provision generally, was
what they were
out for To have action on such lines
deflected by mere